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managed, or wholly neglected, by the so-called "Imperial" Parliament and the Government dependent on it, and to some, though to a much smaller extent, by the Parliaments and Governments of the Dominions (pp. xxv-xxvi).

Twenty years ago an observer would have said that the cause of Imperial Federalism was dead. A league to promote it had proved a failure. Now the cause has revived. The United Kingdom is itself not unlikely soon to become a federal state. This, however, is only a step towards the wider union. There are keen students of Imperialism who say that the next ten years will see the organic union of the British Empire. We are certainly on the eve of striking changes. It is because the forces making for this are so vital that Lord Milner's speeches have an important place in present-day history.

BOOKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Guide to the Materials for the History of the United States in the Principal Archives of Mexico. By HERBERT E. BOLTON, Ph.D., Professor of American History, University of California. (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington. 1913. Pp. xv, 553.)

MINGLED with the satisfaction felt in welcoming each new *Guide* published by the Carnegie Institution through its Department of Historical Research is a feeling of regret that Professor Bolton's substantial volume has fallen upon such troublous times. His task has been that of a veritable pioneer, achieved amidst difficulties such as beset no similar undertaking. Our natural impulse is to praise the results accomplished and to express the hope that recent political disturbances have not vitiated them to any appreciable degree.

At the outset the author devotes a few pages to describing the conditions under which he worked and to necessary acknowledgments and explanations. He defines many of the technical terms used, and notes such practical points as working hours and climatic conditions. He then divides the archives of the country into two classes, those located in Mexico City and those outside, devoting to the former a little over four times the space given the latter. No one reasonably acquainted with the field will quarrel with him over this division. Many who may never see Mexico will appreciate the succinct historical sketches of the principal archives, as well as the appendix containing convenient lists of viceroys, archbishops, bishops, and governors. Such hindrances as the lack of suitable manuscript lists or catalogues for even the best repositories, the frequent transfer of material from one archive to another, and the inaccessibility of portions of certain collections have in a measure been overcome by the author's long and patient personal investigations. The index of seventy-two pages and frequent cross-references will do much to correlate the material treated.

Vast as this material is in bulk, Dr. Bolton points out that the greater part of it relates to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and that he has given little space to what does not specifically belong to territory within the present limits of the United States. He has described some important collections in sufficient detail, including dates and proper names, to enable investigators on the spot to determine what he wishes to examine. In most cases these descriptions are not sufficiently definite for the ordering of copies except through a trained intermediary. In other cases he devotes only a brief comment to an archive, especially one of the minor ecclesiastical ones.

The author devotes a third of his entire space to that most valuable and complete of Mexican repositories—"El Archivo General y Publico de la Nacion". Most of those who work in Mexico will wish that he had devoted more space to it, even at the expense of minor collections elsewhere. An historical sketch with a brief description of the present archive serves to introduce its various divisions. Two of these, the "Correspondence of the Viceroys" (344 vols.), and "Royal Cédulas and Orders" (419 vols.) are treated in a general way, at once clear and accurate. The late Professor George P. Garrison briefly described the section known as "Historia" (530 vols.), in the *Nation* for May 30, 1901. The present author supplements this with a forty-page commentary in which every important volume receives due mention. In addition he devotes fourteen pages to the subdivisions of this section, known as "Military Operations" and "Missions", comprising together more than a thousand volumes. He describes in detail only nine of the former, but the careful manuscript calendar of this and other collections made by Sr. Elias Amador and associates is accessible in the National Museum. To many who knew of the previous collections the hundred pages devoted to classifying and cataloguing the contents of the division "Interior Provinces" (254 vols.) and that of "Californias" (81 vols.) will prove a most valuable and unexpected source of information. The volumes classed under "Justice" (ca. 1100 vols.) and "Marine" (ca. 200 vols.) also have considerable value. The remaining sixty-six sections of this archive comprising the bulk of its 7000 odd volumes and bundles contain only incidental references to the United States.

Aside from the description of the Archivo General, the ordinary student will note with interest the twenty pages devoted to the National Museum and the National Library, whose manuscript collections are largely ecclesiastical and archaeological in character. A few minor church and municipal collections call for no extended comment. The archives in the various secretariats—Foreign Relations, War and Marine, Government, etc., occupy a space nearly equalling that given to the Archivo General. Few documents subsequent to 1821 appear in these collections and much material after that date is being transferred to the General Archive. The first document mentioned on page 223 is a case

in point. These collections are particularly valuable for the relations between Mexico and the United States.

Outside the city of Mexico the archives of Guadalajara, Querétaro, and Zacatecas are valuable chiefly for ecclesiastical data; those of Durango, Monterrey, Saltillo, and Chihuahua for political and economic material of a more local character, although containing church records of value. In addition the author mentions the archives of a few minor towns and some private collections, chiefly ecclesiastical. Investigations outside the capital, however, are likely to prove disappointing. As one result of Professor Bolton's work we may hope to distinguish copies and originals more readily and to avoid some of the irritation caused by the excessive duplication of documents in the Mexican and Spanish archives.

ISAAC JOSLIN COX.

Guide to the Materials for United States History in Canadian Archives. By DAVID W. PARKER. (Washington: Carnegie Institution of Washington. Pp. x, 339.)

THE project for a separate building for the Archives of Canada goes back to 1731; but it was not till 1872 that an archivist was appointed and not till 1906 that a separate building at Ottawa was erected for his use. Since then great strides have been made, largely owing to the unflagging enthusiasm of the present archivist, A. G. Doughty, LL.D. At the death of the first archivist in 1902 there were about 3000 volumes of papers under his care; there are now over 20,000. The building erected in 1906 has already become inadequate, and plans are on foot for enlarging it to more than twice its original size. The universities and local historical societies have become interested, and are represented upon an Historical Manuscripts Commission. Copyists are at work in various centres in North America and in Europe, a skilled permanent representative, Mr. H. P. Biggar, has been appointed superintendent in England and in Europe, and many valuable finds are from time to time reported. So rapidly does the work proceed that Mr. Parker has been compelled to add a supplement describing the main additions since 1912. In connection with the work of collecting and centralizing the records of the Dominion, a considerable library of rare pamphlets and maps has been accumulated, and a large collection of engravings and paintings.

Many of the volumes at Ottawa contain not original documents but transcripts. All of these have been carefully collated, and may be fully trusted. Most of them have been calendared in the early annual reports of the archivist, but the calendars, though highly creditable in view of the paucity of resources allowed to the first archivist, and the untrained assistants forced on him by politicians, contain many mistakes, a number of which are pointed out by Mr. Parker. Among the transcripts are copies from the Archives des Colonies of all papers previous to 1763 dealing with French North America (not including Louisiana),